

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

January 27, 2004

On Friday, January 23, members of the South Los Angeles community held a community meeting and press conference to express the deep concern among community organizations and elected officials over the steps being taken by the Department of Health Services to redesignate the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at King/Drew Medical Center from a regional center to an intermediate. The community is particularly concerned that this step would lead to the diminishing of services at the hospital.

In coming up with these recommendations, DHS' Task Force on Neonatal Intensive Care reviewed, among other factors, the number of infants delivered at King and the number of patients transferred both to and from other hospitals requiring NICU services. DHS found that the number of births at all its hospitals have dropped dramatically over the past 10 years, as have the number of babies requiring high level NICU services. As a result DHS has recommended that there be two regional NICUs and two intermediate NICUS within the County system.

-M-O-R-E-

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

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The doctors at King, elected officials, and community members have questioned these numbers. I have asked Dr. Garthwaite to review these numbers as well any additional information that is provided and to ensure that the review of this information is taken into account and he has indicated he will do so.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors instruct the Department of Health Services to verify and validate the numbers that were part of the report as well any additional information and report back within 30 days with recommendations for implementation.

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YBB:PM:jt3(KDMCreport)